

Subject: Naming Proposal For The St Mark's Golf Course – "Southborough Golf Club – Est. 1896"

From: Golf Course Committee

Biographical & Historical Information:

The original Southborough Golf Club was founded and built by George Peabody Gardner. G.P. Gardner was one of the ninth generation of one of the oldest families in America, tracing his roots to Thomas Gardner ('The Planter') of Cape Anne in 1626. G.P. Gardner was the nephew of John (Jack) Lowell Gardner, who married Isabella Stewart. G.P. Gardner was instrumental in assisting Isabella Stewart Gardner in creating the Fenway Court museum now bearing her name after the death of her husband, Jack. The Gardner family was intertwined with all the great families of the times: Bowditch, Peabody, Lowell, Endicott and Lodge. The land on the west side of Latisquama Road that became the golf course was originally owned by Lyman Newton who sold it to one of Southborough most prosperous farmers, Fitch Winchester. The house that stands at 25 Latisquama today was moved by G.P. Gardner around the time he purchased the Lyman Newton farm. The house was from the north part of town where the Sudbury reservoir was built. The first superintendent of the golf course, John Colleary, lived in that house aside the golf course. Although G.P. Gardner was a Boston based banker and businessman with many interests, in addition to a home in Boston, he kept his true home in Southborough. His home and horse barn still stand on Main Street today at 94 and 96 Main. The golf course was built by G.P. Gardner in the late 1890s and appears in golf course directories of the time as being established in either 1896 or 1897. From its outset, the course was open to all who could afford its modest annual membership or daily fees. The course was "laid out on a fine piece of property" and was accessible by "motor, train or electrics". Another indication of the open nature of the golf was that Sunday play was permitted and there were no caddies, both reflecting the common nature of the golf on the course. Eventually, in 1923, G.P. Gardner donated the course to the St. Mark's School, where he was involved on the board for many years. Today's course remains much the same as the course was originally laid out. It represents a type and style of course not seen today in such a well preserved state. The earliest aerial photograph of the course from 1938 shows many of the features still seen on the course today. It is notable how the course had much fewer treed areas at this point in its history. As a footnote, G.P. Gardner is buried in Southborough in the Burnett Memorial Cemetery, aside St. Mark's Church, a few hundred feet from where he lived.

Reasons Justifying The Choice Of Name

By choosing "Southborough Golf Club" as the name, the Town connects the future of the course to its beginnings as a place open to all for recreation. Its modest beginnings and history, when G.P. Gardner could have afforded to join or create a fully private country club, speaks to his philanthropy and modest spirit that we should emulate.

Exhibit A: George Peabody Gardner, circa 1899, by A.L. Zorn, In the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



SOUTHBOROUGH.

SOUTHBOROUGH GOLF CLUB.—This place is about thirty miles out of Boston, and the club was formed for the benefit of students at the St. Mark's and Fay schools, with a few players in the town. There are nine holes, laid out on a fine piece of property. Altogether there are about 50 members, Newell Bent, of the Fay School, Southborough, acting as secretary and treasurer.

Secretary and treasurer, Newell Bent, Southborough.

326

THE AMERICAN GOLFER

SUMMARY:

PINEHURST, N. C.

December 29 to 31.

Seventh Annual Holiday Week Tournament.

Medalist—Walter J. Travis, Garden City, 33, 36—69.

85—F. W. Shibley, Dyker Meadow	Shibley				
82—Homer Boyer, Southboro....	3 and 1	Hunter			
89—R. L. Ireland, Cleveland C. C.	Hunter	4 and 3			
84—Paul M. Hunter, Midlothian.	by default		Hunter		
82—P. W. Whittemore, Brookline	Whittemore		4 and 2		
85—Julian T. Bishop, Brooklawn	6 and 5	Whittemore			
89—S. H. Patterson, Plainfield..	Gillett	5 and 4			
88—C. R. Gillett, Wykagyl.....	5 and 3				
69—Walter J. Travis, Garden City	Travis			Travis	
88—Dr. A. T. Haight, Wykagyl.	9 and 8	Travis		2 and 1	
89—J. M. Thompson, Springhaven	Becker	4 and 3			
80—C. L. Becker, Woodland....	6 and 5		Travis		
87—W. C. Freeman, Fox Hills..	Freeman		7 and 6		
85—H. M. Adams, Nassau.....	3 and 1	Hunter			
77—Robert E. Hunter, Midlothian	Hunter	1 up			
87—B. S. Bottome, Fox Hills....	5 and 4				

Beaten Eight, First Sixteen.—Final—Homer Boyer, Southboro, beat J. M. Thompson, Springhaven, 6 and 5.

Second Sixteen.—Final—A. M. Robbins, Garden City, beat C. B. Hudson, Rochester, 5 and 4.

Beaten Eight, Second Sixteen.—Final—E. H. Fay, Southboro, beat H. W. Ormsby, Alpine, 1 up.

Third Sixteen.—Final—Geo. W. Adair, Atlanta, beat T. S. Lippy, Seattle, 1 up, 22 holes.

Beaten Eight, Third Sixteen.—Final—J. W. Billigan, Southboro, beat R. L. Durstine, Ardsley, 1 up.

Fourth Sixteen.—Final—Richard S. Tufts, Boston, beat L. A. Coffin, Jr., New York, 1 up, 19 holes.

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Exhibit C: G.P. Gardner Home & Barn



Exhibit D: Who's Who In Banking Entry For G.P. Gardner

GARDNER, George Peabody, 49 State St.; res. 186 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.
Trustee: b. Boston, Mass., Nov. 19, 1855; s. George Augustus and Ellen Radicott (Peabody) Gardner; A. B. Harvard Univ. 1877; m. Southborough, Mass., June 11, 1884, Esther Barnett; children: Catharine Gardner Boyer and George P., Jr. Is pres. Great Falls Manufacturing Co., Lawrence Manufacturing Co., St. Mary's Mineral Land Co.; v.-pres. Chicago Junction Railroads and Union Stock Yards, Houghton Copper Co.; dir. Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Co., Mayflower-Old Colony Mining Co., Old Colony Trust Co., Old Colony Railroad Co., Union Freight Railroad Co., Champion Copper Co., State St. Exchange, American Telephone

and Telegraph Co., General Electric Co., International Electric Co.; trus. Amoskeag Manufacturing Co. Served in Mass. First Corps Cadets, captain and aide-de-camp Second Brigade Staff. Pres. Children's Hospital; mgt. Mass. Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary; trus. Trustees of Donations, Museum of Fine Arts, St. Mark's School; treas. Society for the Relief of Aged and Disabled Episcopalian Clergymen. Clubs: Somerset, Country (Boston), University, Harvard (New York). Episcopalian.

Exhibit E: G.P. Gardner – 1888 Photo At Myopia Polo

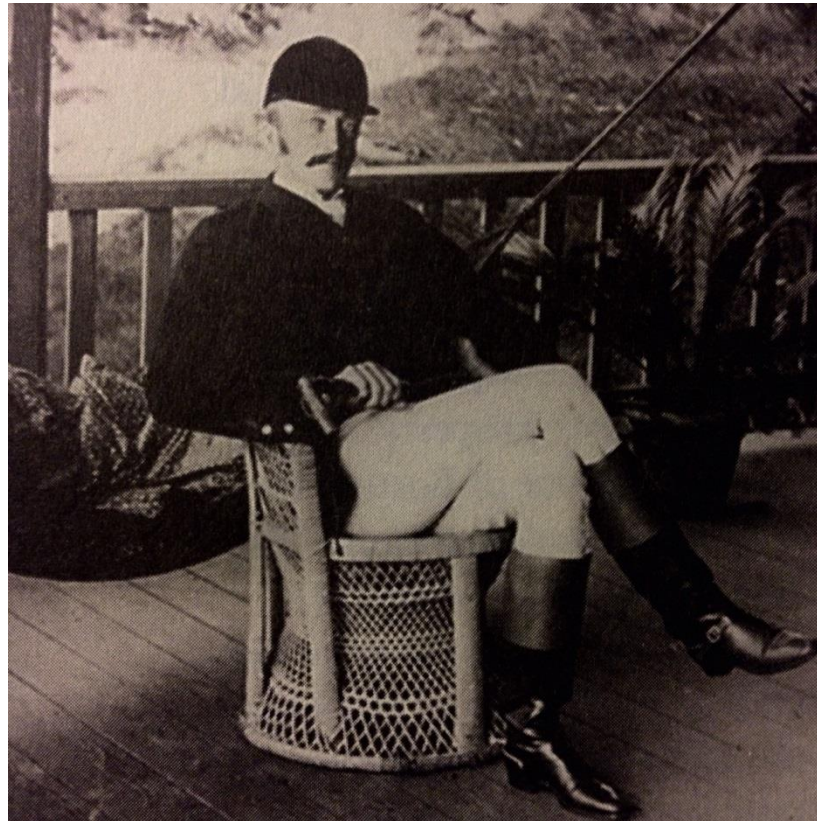


Exhibit F: 1938 Aerial Photo Of The Golf Course



Exhibit G: G.P. Gardner Tombstone



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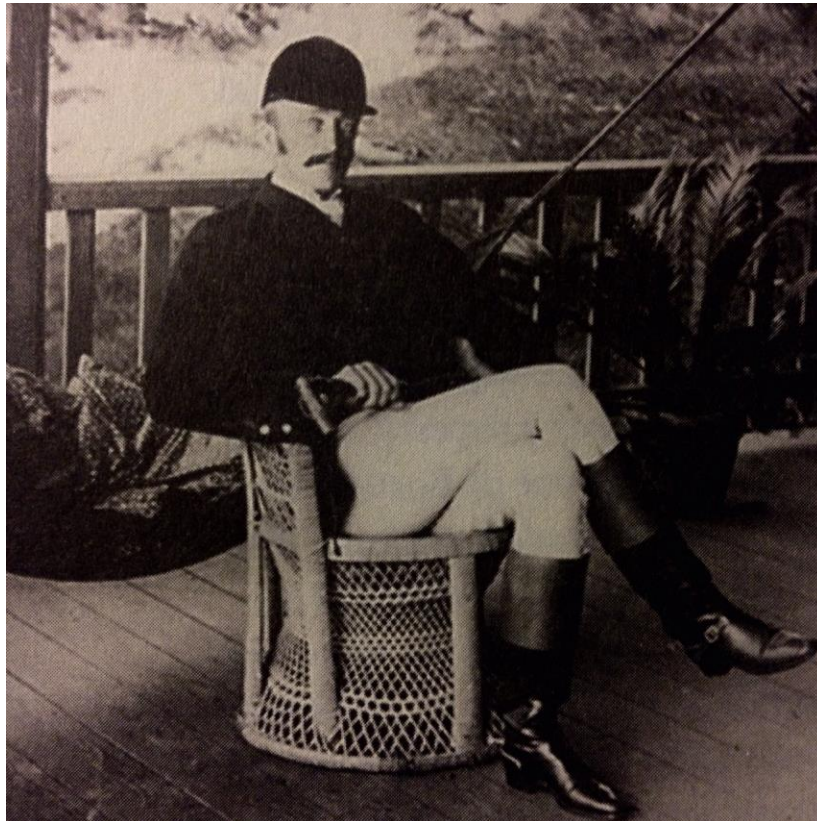


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CHAPTER V

THE GARDNER FAMILY

JOHN LOWELL GARDNER (born in Boston, November 26, 1837), who married Isabella Stewart, now memorialized in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, had a distinguished ancestry. Not only was he the son of John Lowell and Catherine Elizabeth (Peabody) Gardner and the grandson of Samuel Pickering and Rebecca Russell (Lowell) Gardner,¹ but he was a descendant in the ninth generation of Thomas Gardner the planter, who came over from Dorsetshire in 1624 and is known as the first overseer of the plantation at Cape Ann, which in 1626 was removed to Salem under Roger Conant. This pioneer settler it was, who, at a meeting of the London Company on July 28, 1629, was mentioned as "one Mr. Gardner, an able and expert man in divers facultyes."

Thomas Gardner was among the original members of the First Church in Salem and became (in 1637) a deputy to the General Court. He was one of the "twelve men" of the town that same year and throughout his long life was prominent in town and colony. He died the "29th, 10th month, 1674", leaving nine children.² His son Richard removed to Nantucket in 1667, his wife Sarah having been excommunicated from the church in Salem for attending Quaker meetings. His brother John also removed to that island

¹ Born May 17, 1779, daughter of Honorable John and Rebecca (Russell) Lowell. See Lowell Family.

² Much of interest about the early Gardners may be found in George D. Phippen's "The Old Planters of Salem" and in the contributions on this subject of Doctor Frank Augustine Gardner to the Historical Collections of the Essex Institute, Vols. 37-40 inclusive; published in 1907 as "Thomas Gardner, Planter, and Some of His Descendants."

Famous Families of Massachusetts

about 1673. They became the progenitors of the large and important Nantucket branch of the family.¹ Lieutenant Thomas Gardner, the eldest son of the planter, has no descendants bearing the name of Gardner. His granddaughter Mary married Captain William Bowditch. They were ancestors of Captain Nathaniel Bowditch,² the distinguished mathematician.

Captain Joseph, the youngest son of Thomas, first generation, has come down as a surveyor and vintner. He married Ann Downing, daughter of "Mr. Samuel Downing, gent.", until 1638 a lawyer in London. He was killed December 19, 1675, at Indian Fort, Narragansett, while commanding the Salem company. His widow married Governor Simon Bradstreet.

Samuel, the fifth son of Thomas, was a leading citizen of Salem. His son, Lieutenant Abel, who married Sarah, daughter of Israel and Elizabeth (Hathorne) Porter, was the ancestor of a prominent line of leaders in the merchant activities of Salem for many decades. His son Jonathan married first Elizabeth Gardner, daughter of Captain John and Elizabeth (Weld) Gardner. She was the mother of all of his children. His son "Commodore" Jonathan Gardner, fifth generation, married Sarah Putnam. He died March 2, 1791, and was buried in the "Gardner Annex" of the Charter Street Burying Ground, Salem. His brother, Captain John Gardner, often called John Gardner 3d, married (April 13, 1769) Sarah, daughter of Richard and Sarah (Hodges) Derby. Their daughter, Sarah (1773-1807), married, June 5, 1796, Honorable Jacob Crowninshield,³ Member of Congress.

¹ In 1862, William G Folger published a series of articles in the *Nantucket Inquirer* under the title "Thomas Gardner and His Nantucket Descendants", which though now out of print were in 1927 made available to the public, by Howard Greene of Milwaukee. A typewritten copy, with charts and additions prepared by Mr. Greene himself, may be seen in the rooms of the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston.

² See Bowditch Family

³ See Crowninshield Family.

The Gardner Family

Another prominent descendant in the sixth generation through Samuel, second generation, was John Gardner, (1771-1847), son of John and Sarah (Derby) Gardner and brother of Mrs. Jacob Crowninshield, whose ships sailed to very distant parts of the globe and who, until the War of 1812, prospered greatly in his venturings. Then he and one of his vessels was captured and taken to Halifax and, because he carried no insurance against war, "all his sanguine calculations were blasted." His son John, born August 6, 1796, married Maria Cecelia Endicott ¹ and set up a home in Rio de Janeiro where, during a period of about twenty years he magnificently entertained many Salem visitors. Early in the fifties of the last century, he returned to the United States and settled in New Brighton, Long Island, at the same time engaging in business in New York under the firm name of John Gardner and Company.

There is also a vigorous Maine branch ² of the family which runs back through Ebenezer, great-great-grandson of Thomas the Planter, to Samuel, second generation. Arlo Bates, well remembered in Boston as a writer, was of this line. Many descendants of Samuel, second generation, are living to-day in Salem and vicinity. They occupy various positions of trust and have been prominent in military affairs.

Lieutenant George Gardner, second son of Thomas the Planter, was a prominent citizen, with large land holdings in what is now West Peabody, where his homestead still stands. His son, Captain Samuel Gardner, third generation, was one of the leading men of Salem and a very extensive landowner. His son, Captain John Gardner, fourth generation, served the town and province in many important capacities. He commanded the Salem company in the battle with the French and Indians at Haverhill, August 29, 1708. An Indian spoon

¹ See Endicott Family.

² See "The Gardner Family of Machias and Vicinity", by Charles L. Andrews, Kennebec Journal Print, 1898.

Famous Families of Massachusetts

and tomahawk captured by him in that battle are still in the possession of members of the family. He married, January 11, 1704, Elizabeth Weld, daughter of Doctor Daniel and Bethia Weld. His son, Captain John Gardner, held many town offices and served as representative in the General Court. He commanded a troop of horse in 1774 and in December, of that year, was chosen on a committee to "carry into execution the resolves of the American Congress." His first wife was Elizabeth Putnam, daughter of Lieutenant James and Sarah Putnam. Samuel Gardner, brother of the last named John, was one of the leading merchants of Salem. He graduated from Harvard in 1732 and served the town as representative to the General Court and in many other capacities. He married twice. His first wife, and the mother of all of his children, was Esther Orne, daughter of Timothy and Lois (Pickering) Orne. His second wife was Elizabeth Winslow, widow, a sister of the girl John Singleton Copley married and a daughter of Richard Clarke, one of the consignees of the tea thrown overboard in Boston Harbor. Samuel died April 7, 1769, and Mrs. Winslow-Gardner married Francis Cabot. Samuel's son George graduated from Harvard in 1762. He became a merchant in Salem and died about January 1, 1774, leaving among other bequests of a public nature, £1333 "to Harvard College in Cambridge to be improved for the Education of poor Scholars." His younger brother, Henry, also went to Harvard, graduating in the class of 1765. He was a merchant and master mariner. He married Sarah Turner October 18, 1769, and in 1775 removed with his family to Newfoundland, remaining there until 1781. He lived in Malden during the latter part of his life.

Another son of Captain John and Elizabeth (Weld) Gardner was Ensign Daniel, who married Anna Putnam, December 23, 1734, having inherited two hundred acres of land "in that part of Danvers now known as West Peabody" as his share of the estate of his grandfather, Captain Samuel

The Gardner Family

Gardner. He served as ensign in Captain Samuel Endicott's company in 1733 and represented Salem in the General Court in 1750. He died September 15, 1759.

Captain John Gardner, sixth generation, only son of Captain John and Elizabeth (Putnam) Gardner, went to sea in his early days and was master of a vessel in the West India trade for several years. He married for his second wife Elizabeth Pickering,¹ daughter of Colonel Timothy Pickering, member of the cabinets of Presidents Washington and Adams. They were the parents of Samuel Pickering Gardner, seventh generation, who married, September 19, 1797, Rebecca Russell Lowell, daughter of Judge John and Sarah (Higginson) Lowell. He graduated from Harvard College, July 15, 1786, and that same year went to Charleston, South Carolina, where he engaged in business with his brother John. After about eight months he returned to Massachusetts and settled in Boston. In December, 1800, he purchased of F. W. Geyer a mansion house on Summer Street, in Boston, on the present site of the Hovey store, and made very extensive improvements in the property. Here he continued to reside until his death, December 18, 1845.

The John Lowell Gardner (1804-1884) whose son married Isabella Stewart was one of the six children of Samuel Pickering and Rebecca Russell (Lowell) Gardner and nearly the last of the great East Indian merchants² of New England. He had practically withdrawn from foreign commerce, however, when his namesake left Harvard³ to enter the paternal countingroom. Thus he was free to enjoy with Mrs. Gard-

¹ See Pickering Family.

² From a connection of the family comes the story that this John L. Gardner was so uniformly successful in his business ventures that "if you had started him at the foot of State Street with nothing on, by the time he had reached the Old State House he would have a new suit of clothes, spats, cane, a tall hat, and money in his pocket!" The estate he left to be divided between his two sons was estimated to be worth five million dollars.

³ His class was that of 1858, but he left in his sophomore year in good standing. The degree of A B was given him at the Commencement of 1897.

Famous Families of Massachusetts

ner and their daughter Julia¹ the delights and solaces of travel abroad. It was in Paris, in 1854, that the Gardners of Boston encountered for the first time Mr. and Mrs. David Stewart of New York and their vivacious daughter, Isabella.

This lady, who in her lifetime was to make the name of Gardner famous both in Europe and the United States, was born in New York — at Number 20 University Place — in 1840. Mrs. Stewart's family were the Smiths of Smithtown, Long Island, while Mr. Stewart was the son of one James Stewart who came to the United States from Scotland and spent his life at Jamaica, Long Island, as a prosperous gentleman farmer. Their daughter believed herself descended, through the Stewarts of Appin, from the Mary Stuart we know as "Queen of Scots."

However authentic this claim may be, young Isabella Stewart had a pleasant upbringing, and after some schooling and happy summers passed on her grandfather's place on Long Island, accompanied her parents to Paris for the "finish" so many well-to-do Americans² then sought there for their daughters. Mr. Stewart and Mr. Gardner became quite good friends in the French capital. The friendship between the ladies was less pronounced — Mrs. Gardner, as we have seen, being of the Salem Peabodys. But the daughters, no less than their fathers, were mutually attracted and after returning home exchanged many souvenirs and letters. In 1859, Isabella Stewart visited Julia Gardner in Boston and it was there that young John Lowell Gardner met her for the first time and fell in love with her. He became her husband in Grace Church, New York, April 10, 1860, so beginning a devotion which endured until his death in Boston, December 10, 1898.³

Though he must often have been sorely tried by his wife's

¹ Who became Mrs. Joseph Randolph Coolidge. See Coolidge Family.

² When Mr. Stewart died, July 17, 1891, Mrs. Gardner inherited from him about \$2,750,000.

³ His sister, Mrs. J. Randolph Coolidge, and his brother, George A. Gardner, survived him.

The Gardner Family

high-spirited vagaries,¹ Mr. Gardner's loyalty and gallant squiring never wavered. His great business abilities found an outlet in the management of corporations. He was for many years chairman of the finance committee made up of the directors of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad and, after the death of President John Murray Forbes, he was made chairman of the board. Like his wife, he was deeply interested in art and so found particularly congenial his duties as treasurer of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. He was also interested in yacht racing and at the time of the first international race for America's cup was one of the syndicate of six who built the winning boat, the *Puritan*.

Mrs. Gardner's biographer, Morris Carter, has remarked of his brilliant subject² that, in middle life and earlier, "to dominate others gave Mrs. Gardner such pleasure that she must have regretted the passing of slavery." Which is certainly a robust method of characterizing the lady in question. Slavery did pass, however, when Mrs. Gardner was a young matron and with it passed the years until 1867, when, ill and sad from the death of her only child "Jackie",³ the sorrowing mother went abroad for a time with her husband. Upon their return Mrs. Gardner quickly became one of the most conspicuous members of Boston society, "swimming into New England life with a new and novel stroke." In time, even the women accepted her. In the middle nineties of the last century she was a leading member of that fun-loving lunch club named "It", to which Mrs. Barrett Wendell, Mrs. J. Montgomery Sears, Mrs. J. Templeman Coolidge and Miss Martha Silsbee — with others — also belonged.

¹ *C'est mon plaisir* — it is my pleasure — the motto which, with a phoenix, emblem of immortality, Mrs. Gardner caused to be placed on the seal that she designed for the Gardner Museum, was, we are told, the reason and, in her opinion, the justification for her every action

² In "Isabella Stewart Gardner and Fenway Court" Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston, 1925.

³ John Lowell Gardner 3d died March 15, 1865, having delighted his parents for one brief year

Famous Families of Massachusetts

While Mrs. Gardner had a dozen different interests, art, that much overworked word, now began to hold her more and more. She acquired a critical knowledge of music, studied paintings carefully, and rounded out still further the peculiar power to appreciate beauty that was already hers.¹ Endowed with unerring taste, her thoughts after Mr. Gardner's death were focussed on the collection that had grown into her life. Soon afterward, the ground was bought upon which the Fenway *palazzo* was built and which, January 1, 1903, Mrs. Gardner first opened to Boston society. Soon she took up her abode there; and there, July 17, 1924, she died.²

In a book interested in the continuity of the family, it is worth recording that when John L. Gardner took his three young nephews, William Amory Gardner, Joseph, and Augustus Peabody Gardner, into his home at Number 152 Beacon Street, Mrs. Gardner became to these boys as a second mother.³ Mr. Carter records that "she read Dickens aloud to them. . . . When the oldest boy went to Harvard the Saturday evening was the treat of the week-end at home. After the family Christmas in Boston Mrs. Gardner took the nephews to her father's house for the New Year gaieties in New York."

William Amory Gardner's class at Harvard was that of 1884. The October after he left college he, with Sherrard Billings and Endicott Peabody⁴ (trained at Cheltenham in

¹ Henry James once remarked of "Mrs. Jack Gardner" that hers had been "a preposterously pleasant career" because she "had everything, did everything, and enjoyed everything" The unusual things that she "did" included such an achievement as a private audience with Pope Pius XIII who, as she knelt at his feet, took in his hands the pearls she wore in one long string "and seemed to find pleasure in them", also being presented at the Italian Court and sending yellow roses to the king on his birthday — so precipitating a situation Mr. Gardner found it awkward to explain!

² By her will she established "Fenway Court" as a museum for the education and enjoyment of the public forever. The museum was opened to the general public for the first time February 23, 1903

³ This was soon after the death in 1875 of the boys' father, Joseph Peabody Gardner. Their mother had been born Harnet Amory. See Amory Family.

⁴ See Peabody Family.



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MRS. JOHN LOWELL GARDNER

*Painted by John Singer Sargent, and now in
Fenway Court, Boston*



SIR RICHARD SALTONSTALL

From the portrait of anonymous Dutch origin formerly attributed to Rembrandt, in the possession of Hon. Leverett Saltonstall

The Gardner Family

England and graduated at Trinity in the English Cambridge), founded the Groton School with which Mr. Gardner was associated throughout his life. On his death, February 8, 1930, a bequest of much land in Groton and of several hundred thousand dollars came into the possession of the school which had meant so much to him.

His younger brother, Augustus Peabody Gardner, died at the Base Hospital, Camp Wheeler, Georgia, January 14, 1918, having crowded a great deal of adventure and public service into fifty-two years of life. Born in Boston, Major Gardner was prepared for college at the Hopkinson School and at St. Paul's, Concord, New Hampshire. His class at Harvard was that of 1886 and after graduation he studied law before settling down as a gentleman farmer in Hamilton. On June 14, 1892, he married Constance Lodge, only daughter of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge.

At the outbreak of the war with Spain, Augustus Gardner, in whom the military spirit noted in earlier generations of the Gardner family seems to have been particularly strong,¹ immediately offered his services to his country and received a commission as Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General. Assigned to the staff of Major-General James H. Wilson, he served with distinction in the Porto Rican campaign, earning there the rank of brevet major that was actually bestowed on him some years later.

Politics now claimed his interest and beginning with the autumn of 1899 he served two terms in the Massachusetts State Senate. In 1902 he was elected to Congress from the Sixth District of Massachusetts and ably represented his farming yeomanry there until he resigned, on May 22, 1917, to enter the United States army in the hope that he might

¹ Augustus Peabody Gardner was always proud of his descent from that Capt. John Gardner, only son of Capt. Samuel and Elizabeth (Browne) Gardner, who married (Jan. 11, 1704) Elizabeth Weld, daughter of Dr. Daniel Weld of Salem. A horn spoon taken by Captain Gardner from one of the Indians whom he slew in the battle with the French and Indians at Haverhill, August 29, 1708, was among Major Gardner's most cherished possessions.

Famous Families of Massachusetts

render real service to his country in the Great War. While in command of a battalion in the 121st Infantry he was stricken with an attack of pneumonia that caused his death. The little volume of his letters edited by his wife ¹ and published three years later ² reveals Major Gardner to have been a gallant gentleman, seriously desirous of acquitting himself well of his public duties and very tender in his family relations. Particularly delightful are some of the letters to his daughter Constance.³

John L. Gardner's surviving brother, George Augustus Gardner, married Eliza Endicott Peabody and their son, George Peabody Gardner, married (June 11, 1884) Esther Burnett of Southboro, daughter of Joseph Burnett and Josephine Cutler, his wife. George Peabody Gardner, Jr., who married Rose Phinney Grosvenor of Providence, Rhode Island, January 28, 1913, is *their* son. It is interesting that these young Gardners, who make their home at Green Hill, Brookline — long the country home of the famous "Mrs. Jack" and her husband — should number among their children Isabella Stewart Gardner, born September 7, 1915, and John Lowell Gardner, 2d, born April 14, 1923, who are members of the twelfth generation of Gardners in this country.

¹ Now the wife of Major General Clarence C. Williams of Washington, D. C.

² Through Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston.

³ Constance Gardner married first Grafton W. Minot of Boston, from whom she was divorced in 1923; the year following, William Gordon Means of Boston, from whom she was recently divorced. Presley Morgan Taylor of Philadelphia has just become her third husband.